

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please delete Claims 1, and 13 to 17, without prejudice, and amend claim 9 as shown below.

1 – 8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an electrophotosensitive material comprising providing a supporting substrate,

forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin on the supporting substrate by depositing said intermediate layer on said supporting substrate, to thereby form a surface of the intermediate layer on said supporting substrate,

carrying out a heat treatment so that the water contact angle is set within a predetermined range,

and then measuring a water contact angle of the surface of the intermediate layer,

~~and when said water contact angle is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the~~

~~formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$~~  then forming a photosensitive layer on the surface of said

intermediate layer, when the water contact angle is within a predetermined range

which is defined as being not less than  $A^\circ$ , wherein  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$ ,

in which  $B^\circ$  is a water contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximate linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a

residual potential of the electrophotosensitive material and a water contact angle of the intermediate layer;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of a portion of said correlation curve where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in water contact angle, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 9, wherein the correlation curve is derived from values as measured under plural heat treatment conditions for curing the thermosetting resin when the intermediate layer is formed.

11. (Previously Presented) The method for producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 9, wherein the water contact angle is within a range from the value corresponding to the intersection plus 1° to the value corresponding to the intersection plus 7°.

12. (Previously Presented) The method for producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 9, further comprising introducing a pigment into said intermediate layer.

13. – 17. (Cancelled)